July 14, 2005
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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
KATSUHISA OGAWA, et al.	Examiner: V. Srivastava
Application No.: 09/840,103	Group Art Unit: 2617
Filed: April 24, 2001)
For INFORMATION DISTRIBUTING METHOD AND INFORMATION DISTRIBUTING SYSTEM) ;) July 14, 2005
Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated June 16, 2005, Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the Group I claims, namely Claims 1 to 10 and 25 to 32. The Restriction Requirement is, however, traversed.

Traversal is on the ground that there would not be undue burden in examining all three groups of claims in a single application. In particular, MPEP § 808 makes it clear that in order to require restriction between independent or distinct inventions, reasons for insisting upon the restriction, such as undue burden, must also be shown.

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In this regard, the Office Action admits that the allegedly distinct inventions are related and are disclosed as usable together. Thus, it is believed that a search of art relevant to one group would necessarily encompass the others. Therefore, it is not believed that examining all three groups in the same application would present an undue burden on the Examiner. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants

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